7. Many important projects have been taken up for economic development of the State. The work on the Oil Refinery at Numaligarn is nearing completion. The gas pased power project at Kathalguri has also been commissioned.

8. Two Central Universities, one at Tejpur and the other at Silchar, have been set up.

9. An IIT has been set up at Guwahati.

Other Issues

10. The Power to issue citizenship certificates now vests only with the Central Government.

11. Out of 158 Kms. of border fencing sanctioned along Assam-Bangladesh border, 134.36 kms. of fence has been completed till 31.12.98.

ISI Plan to blow up US consulates in Chennai and Calcutta

223. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the progress in investigations into the reported ISI plan to blow up the US consulates in Chennai and Calcutta during the Repulic Day celebrations;

(b) whether this has also been brought to the notice of the US Government; and

(c) if so, their reaction therto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Investigations into the reported ISI plan to blow up the US consulates in Chennai and Calcutta are still being pursued by the Delhi, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu Police.

(b) and (c) Concerned US agencies were also associated in interrogation and were appreciative of all the initiatives taken by the Indian security agencies in this regard.

Accidental Deaths on Roads

224. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people killed on the roads in the country during the last three years and during 1999, so far, State/UT-wise and year-wise;

(b) the causes of these accidents and what steps have been taken to check such accidents;

(c) whether cases of hit and run accidents are on the increase; and

(d) if so, how many cases were solved the action taken in respect of them and the steps taken to solve the other cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) Available information in regard to the number of persons killed in road accidents during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below) Similar information for the year 1998 and onwards is not yet available.

Many factors are responsible for road accidents. These include, inter alia, ignorance/disobedience of traffic rules, overspeeding, rash and negligent driving, mechanical failure of vehicles, drunken driving, absence of traffic signals, lack of traffic discipline, etc.

'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, it is primarily for the State Governments to take such steps as are necessary to reduce road accidents. The Central Government, however, provides financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure.